



# HAITI FOUNDATION OF HOPE

June 2007

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## MISSION STATEMENT

Haiti Foundation of Hope is a Christian organization addressing the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of the people in the impoverished and underserved rural communities of northern Haiti.



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## Never the same

After almost 24 years of working in Haiti, every time we leave, we know that there will be some patients who will die needlessly before the next team comes because there is no medical care available.

Now, there is something new in the small village of Terre Blanche: a medical clinic, open daily. It is staffed by two Haitian nurses and a pharmacist who are excited to provide care in this remote, underserved area of northern Haiti.

During the month we were there, we were able to see more than 2,000 patients and to schedule rendezvous (follow-up visits) for the next week, the next month, or whatever was appropriate for the on-going care of the patient.

Here are two patients who demonstrate how medical care has changed in Terre Blanche:

The first is Rodna, a 7-year-old girl, who was close to death from a massive staphylococcal facial infection when we saw her two weeks after 9/11. Due to the heroic efforts of several pediatricians on our team, she was able to recover. We have seen her periodically in the clinic since then and we were overjoyed to see her again in March.

M. Duvenard represents the large number of neglected surgical cases that are seen in rural Haiti. The 65-year-old man, who was crippled from a "tap-tap" (vehicle) accident, came to the clinic with a mass the size of a large grapefruit over his right hip. He had been unable to fasten his pants for the past 15 years. He was walking with assistance from a crutch which was barely functional. The surgical removal of the mass in our surgical suite was relatively simple, and because the recently hired Haitian nurses are now seeing patients, the clinic could provide appropriate post-operative care for him (which included replacing his crutch).

To be able to provide on-going care is a major change for the people in Terre Blanche. This is a small beginning and we hope with God's grace to set up a community health program through the clinic in the future.

Rodna and her mother came to the clinic in Terre Blanche several years ago. Rodna, pictured above with Dr. Janan Markee, returned last March.



I FIRST MET RODNA in 2001 when she was brought into the clinic by her mother. Rodna was 2 years old and had a severe facial infection. We all worried she would die, but after a week of IV antibiotics, she improved and went home with her mother. I think about her often, reminding me of how even a little effort can make a difference.

The second time I met Rodna was this last March on our medical team to Terre Blanche. During a long day of many patients and multiple complaints, I was feeling a little exhausted. I came around the table to my next patient only to be asked if I remembered Rodna, now sitting on my table. She looked nothing like the sick child I remembered. Now she was a vibrant, happy 7-year-old girl. My eyes were immediately full of tears as I took in the joy of seeing something so wonderful.

We carried her around the clinic all afternoon, given her lack of fear of the "blanc" that other Haitian children have. Her mother had died since we last saw Rodna and now she has her aunt to care for her. I am continually thankful for the opportunity to see the results of our work in Haiti, but especially the effects of continuity.

*Dr. Janan Markee, March 2007 team*



# HAITI FOUNDATION OF HOPE

## HFH HIGHLIGHTS

### VIDEO

Haiti Foundation of Hope is putting the final touches on a promotional video about the organization's work in rural northern Haiti. A short video with some of the same information will also be featured on the website [www.haitifoundationofhope.org](http://www.haitifoundationofhope.org).

### TEAMS

A medical team is scheduled to leave for Haiti on June 21, returning July 2. The team will work for one week at the Clinic of Hope in Terre Blanche.

Dates for upcoming teams are:

\*Oct. 18-28, 2007

\*Jan. 31-Feb. 10, 2008

\*June 19-30, 2008

## HOW TO HELP

**SCHOOL CHILDREN** - \$15 each month will provide food, a uniform and books for a primary school child; \$100 each month will support a teacher. The school year ends this month. New uniforms and books will be needed when classes start up again in September.

**INSTRUMENTS** - Haiti Foundation of Hope is looking for musical instruments for children to learn to play. Anyone who would like to donate a working instrument can contact the foundation.

## VISIT FROM PASTOR DELAMY

Pastor Delamy Bazilme will be visiting with people in the Northwest July 13-24. He will be speaking at several churches in Oregon and Washington about the work that is going on in Terre Blanche and Anse Rouge, Haiti. Delamy, a partner with Haiti Foundation of Hope, is a pastor with the Free Methodist Church and district superintendent of the Northern Artibonite Valley in Haiti. For a schedule of his church visits, go to [www.haitifoundationofhope.org](http://www.haitifoundationofhope.org).



Pastor Delamy Bazilme and his wife, Elvire.

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Meet Mme Julberte, a nurse now working at the clinic in Terre Blanche, Haiti.